

Quarterly Issues Report
WLFI-TV
Second Quarter, 2011

AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS and HEALTHCARE

Area farmers dealt with a soggy spring and NewsChannel 18 was there to hear how they were dealing with the added stress. After a tornado blew through Cass County NewsChannel 18 showed viewers the damage and how it was being taken care of.

In business, a company in the Purdue Research Park was back on the financial market for the first time since 2007. NewsChannel 18 took a closer look at why BASI is back on the financial map.

4-4-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

The Caterpillar plant in Lafayette makes strides toward becoming a leader in green technologies. According to Caterpillar Lafayette General Manager Bruce Schuver the CAT plant in Lafayette is the largest manufacturing plant in the US to implement this type of lighting technology. Caterpillar paired with local company to install the energy efficient LED lighting that now covers 750-thousand square feet of the facility.

4-11-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:30)

The first West Lafayette Autism therapy center is still a few weeks away from opening. NewsChannel 18's Ava Wilhite reports on how many student spots the center still has available.

4-12-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration :30)

We have an update on a Frankfort soldier who was injured in Afghanistan. 26-year-old Sergeant Jamie Jarboe was wounded Sunday according to his mother and father. Yesterday he was checked into Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington D-C and is **stable**. He's a 2003 graduate of Frankfort Senior High School.

4-21-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast, Duration 1:00)

Home and business owners in Clinton County are working to fix damage from Tuesday's storms before more severe weather hits. The National Weather Service is reporting hurricane force straight-line winds hit Mulberry.

4-25-11 (During morning news – Duration 1:30)

In this week's Living Green With NewsChannel 18 we make sense of a phrase you may've heard if you're an employee...and one you need to become aware of if you're a business owner. It's called "Clear-Blue-Green."

4-27-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

Indiana University Health Arnett and White County Memorial Hospital announced a merger. County officials recently voted in favor of the agreement which will take effect July first. An I-U Health Arnett spokesperson says White County Memorial will definitely go through some sort of name change to include the I-U brand, but will still include a local feel.

4-29-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:15)

West Lafayette is one of the fastest growing cities in America according to Bloomberg Businessweek. Bloomberg says the Purdue Research Park alone is home to more than 160 companies. The article also says the unemployment rate in West Lafayette is four point four percent. That's half of the unemployment rate in the entire state.

4-29-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Step by step students at Purdue University are learning a lesson about healthy living. NewsChannel 18's Laura Kirtley was at the class and has this report.

5-7-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Months of unemployment could be ending for some in the Lafayette area as one local employer adds 100 new positions. As the unemployment rate in Tippecanoe County continues to slowly fall, a national company with a base in Lafayette is hiring for 100 new positions. Teleservices Direct supervisor Alex Trueblood says she hopes this hiring will help those who are still struggling with finding jobs.

5-12-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:00)

A company based in the Purdue Research Park is seeing millions of dollars in renewed interest from investors.

Bioanalytical Systems Incorporated, or B-A-S-I is back on the financial market for the first time since 2007. That confidence from Wall Street investors could mean new jobs for its four locations, especially here in West Lafayette.

5-19-11 (During Noon broadcast – Duration 1:00)

Since Monday, members of a local Union have been involved in a labor dispute, accompanied by a giant inflatable rat! Members of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 103 are protesting because out-of-state workers were hired for the construction of the U-S 231 extension.

5-23-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

Expectant mothers now have the chance to save lives with a single donation. St. Elizabeth East Women's Center is now one of just a handful of hospitals in the state offering cord blood donation. Mothers can chose to donate their baby's cord blood to be used for research and treatment of more than 70 illnesses.

5-25-11 (During Noon broadcast – Duration :30)

A downtown Lafayette business is closed for the day after a car crashes into it. The accident happened a little after 8 o'clock at Swan Dermatology in the Earlhurst Suites building at 2020 Union Street. The force of the impact caused a gas leak.

5-25-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

You could soon pay more to vacation close to home. As NewsChannel 18's Ava Wilhite reports, White County looks at increasing the innkeepers tax, which could raise hotel prices for vacationers.

5-26-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

A later start to school can be beneficial for teens. Bill Stanczykiewicz with the Indiana Youth Institute says research shows teens need around nine hours of sleep. But surveys report teens go to bed later than adults and are up earlier or around the same time.

6-3-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

Hoosier farmers are still having trouble getting soybean crops planted. Purdue University says the 2011 planting season is on its way to being one of the wettest and slowest in the eastern corn belt.

6-8-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:00)

Many applied, but few charitable organizations were awarded special grants from the S-I-A Foundation.

Eleven organizations were awarded grants today out of more than 100 that applied. At least two grants help local organizations. One will go to Historic Prophetstown to purchase horse-powered farm machinery.

6-13-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Thousands of Indiana high school students will spend the next few days in West Lafayette. More than 3,500 FFA members will be seen walking through Purdue's campus for the 82nd State FFA Convention.

6-13-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

One Battle Ground couple is concerned after they say an ambulance ride took too long to get one of them to the hospital. Aaron Leedy has the story.

6-14-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :25)

A project that's digitized an early Indiana farming publication is giving researchers a glimpse into the 19th century mindset of agriculture. Purdue University Libraries recently finished digitizing all of the issues of "Indiana Farmer" from the years 1851 to 1917. The collection shows Indiana agriculture during and after the Civil War era, and will become part of the Indiana Memory project.

6-20-11 (During 6 pm broadcast – Duration :45)

Two children are recovering in the hospital today after a tree fell on them in Tippecanoe County. It happened during yesterday's powerful storms.

6-22-11 (During noon broadcast – Duration :45)

A new bookstore is open for business in downtown Lafayette. Two former co-workers decided to open "Robots and Rogues" on Main Street after losing their jobs when Borders suddenly closed in West Lafayette.

6-23-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

The city of Lafayette is helping a new company train employees. Little Star Center will get 16-thousand dollars to help train 16 new employees. Greater Lafayette Commerce Director of Economic Development Jody Hamilton says funds are available for companies when they create new jobs.

6-24-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

Good indicators for Indiana's economy, despite news that a plant in Frankfort will lay off nearly 100 workers. 94 people who work at the Nidec Motor Corporation plant in Frankfort will lose their jobs by the end of the year.

6-28-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :40)

An early morning train accident caused one man to be flown to an Indianapolis hospital. Crawfordsville police got a call around four o'clock this morning saying a man was hit by a train. Police identified the victim as 46 year old Raymond Hocking. He was taken to Saint Vincent Hospital where he is in critical condition.

CRIME

NewsChannel 18 brought viewers the stories of some bizarre crimes in the second quarter. A Crawfordsville woman was beaten with a hammer by her ex-husband. Also, NewsChannel 18 brought viewers the story of a Montgomery County teacher, accused of having sex with a student. Robbery crimes were also on the rise in the second quarter. The Lafayette Check Into Cash location was robbed at gunpoint, after a robber holds a manager hostage.

4-11-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

A Crawfordsville woman is in the hospital after allegedly being beaten with a hammer by her ex-husband. According to Crawfordsville Police, officers were called to this home at 1105 Ambassador Court Saturday afternoon for a domestic dispute.

4-12-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :55)

A Fountain County High School Teacher is charged with child seduction. 35-year-old Covington Community High School English Teacher Tiffany A Mosson was arrested today for one count of child seduction.

4-25-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

The Newton County Sheriff's Department is investigating a robbery at a gas station. According to the Sheriff's Department, the robbery took place at Bozeman's Gas Station on State Road 10 in Roselawn last Friday night.

A man entered the business and demanded cash.

4-28-11 (During Noon broadcast – 1:15)

Lafayette Police are still on the lookout for two men who robbed Mad Mushroom Pizza yesterday morning. I talked to one of the employees who feared for his life, after being held at gunpoint.

4-29-11 (During noon broadcast – Duration 1:00)

Police are still searching for a man who held a woman hostage and robbed a check cashing business this morning. NewsChannel 18's Aaron Leedy has the latest on this...

5-13-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:15)

An active meth lab close to an elementary school in Lafayette has some disgusted it was found in their neighborhood. Some people aren't surprised and others are simply calling it scary. Police served two arrest warrants this afternoon after an on-going investigation. Two men are in now in jail and face felony charges.

5-17-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

A downtown Lafayette location for Ivy Tech Community College couldn't come fast enough. The project is on time for the beginning of the fall semester. As NewsChannel 18's Aaron Leedy reports, the new campus means new jobs as well.

5-19-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

The weather is beginning to warm up and so are sales of one sweet. NewsChannel 18's Niccole Caan explains why what people buy - often depends on the weather.

5-24-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :40)

A Lafayette man was taken to jail this week, for sitting on a bench near Main Street, wearing nothing but his birthday suit. According to Lafayette police, 53-year-old Stephen Phipps was arrested for public indecency Sunday evening around 6:45. Police say he cooperated with law enforcement, and was booked into the Tippecanoe County Jail.

5-27-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

A Monticello doctor has been charged with sexual battery on a patient. According to court documents, 38-year-old Dr. Stephen K. Rogers was charged with a felony in White County Superior Court. Rogers allegedly touched his female patients at the Monticello Medical Center inappropriately.

6-3-11 (During Noon broadcast – Duration :40)

Around 2:30-AM firefighters were called to Wea Elementray School where they found two TSC buses fully engulfed. Tippecanoe County dispatch says a witness saw a couple juveniles running from that area around the time the fire started. The spokesman from Wea Fire Department tells us the fire is "suspicious" and the arson task force has been called to investigate the exact cause.

6-7-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

The Miami County prosecutor's office says formal charges for a Peru man arrested for murder could be announced as early as tomorrow. Police arrested 30-year-old Zachary Sebastian on preliminary charges of murder and illegal possession of a handgun.

6-16-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

Police find 140-thousand dollars worth of heroin after a routine traffic stop in Tippecanoe County. Indiana State Police Sergeant Kim Riley says a car driven by 24-year-old Christian P. Austin of Cincinnati, Ohio was stopped this morning for a traffic violation on I-65. Riley says Trooper Ryan Winters discovered around two kilos of heroin in the car.

6-27-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

A West Lafayette woman has been arrested for false informing following a rollover crash at the Cambridge Estates apartment complex. Lafayette Police say 22-year-old Rachael Runkle lied to police officers after the car she and another person were in flipped over this evening. Lafayette Police Officer Mike Barthelmy says Runkle was the passenger in the car, but lied to police and said she was the driver

DIVERSITY

The Latino Festival held its 5th annual celebration in the second quarter. NewsChannel 18 looked at how the event has grown over the years.

NewsChannel 18 also highlighted the continued need of food for the hungry. The shelves at Food Finders Food Bank continue to be bare. NewsChannel 18 showcased events aimed at replenishing supply.

4-7-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

It's a widely debated topic, but some people say racism and hatred towards minority groups is on the decline.

The fact that racism is rising or declining could be widely debated. But, the people who spoke tonight say diversity locally is expanding.

4-30-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

It was an atmosphere of celebration on Ivy Tech's campus today, in the name of promoting diversity. The fifth annual Tippecanoe Latino festival took place at the community college. Organizer Andrew Antonio says the festival is to celebrate the Local Latino culture as well as bring groups of people together.

5-5-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

People that use food assistance in Lafayette are getting the opportunity to share what they actually receive and eat from a box donation. Many of the people that use food banks say they are above all grateful for everything they receive, but like people that don't use food assistance they have dietary restrictions, and a need for food with nutritional value and not just canned goods.

5-9-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:00)

As the cost of food continues to rise, two local organizations are hoping businesses will consider digging deeper and donating to this year's Hunger Hike. Lafayette Urban Ministry and Food Finders Food Bank kicked off the 2011 Hunger Hike campaign today with help from Bison Financial Group.

6-13-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Thousands of Indiana FFA members will spend the next three days in West Lafayette for the annual state FFA convention. The students come from many backgrounds, but they are here for one purpose. NewsChannel 18's Aaron Leedy has the story.

EDUCATION

School voucher legislation continued to be a major topic of discussion in the second quarter of 2011. NewsChannel 18 heard from parents and administrators to find out what questions were left unanswered.

Purdue University officials chose to raise tuition rates. NewsChannel 18 got reaction from fed up students and their parents.

And, Ivy Tech Community College unveils a partnership with St. Joseph's University to help make both schools more marketable to prospective students.

4-19-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:00)

Parents and students at Frankfort High School are concerned about supposed changes to the school dress code.

One family says high school administrators told them they are restricting what students wear to keep them safe.

Their freshman son says he doesn't feel safer, but he does feel like his rights have been taken away.

4-27-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:45)

What could be a computer glitch is making big waves in the Tippecanoe School Corporation. Parents in TSC know this week is ISTEP testing in the corporation. Many students are now using an online version of the test that, according to the school corporation, is not working properly.

4-27-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :40)

A Purdue Professor and World Food Prize laureate receives a presidential appointment. President Obama has appointed Gebisa Ejeta to serve on the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development. The board advises the U-S Agency for International Development, or U-S-A-I-D, on agricultural development priorities.

4-27-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :35)

A bill encouraging more charter schools in Indiana passes its final legislative hurdle. The Indiana House voted 61 to 37 for Governor Mitch Daniels' proposal to expand charter schools, which are public schools free of many state regulations.

4-28-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Public Education may never be the same as wide reaching voucher, charter and merit-pay bills are signed into law. As News Channel 18's Alex Deiro reports, many local teachers say these new laws are disheartening.

4-29-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:15)

Certain Ivy Tech grads can earn another degree with the help of St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer. Ivy Tech and St. Joseph's entered into an agreement that allows graduates of Ivy Tech's associate degrees to be admitted to St. Joseph's as juniors.

5-13-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Graduation weekend has arrived at Purdue University and some College of Education grads say they don't plan on relaxing this summer. Ava Wilhite spoke with education graduates that are still trying to find work in the classroom

5-17-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Purdue University students and parents could be paying more for tuition. A new proposal calls for a 3.5% increase. NewsChannel 18's Tiffanie Dismore breaks down the costs.

5-27-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

The Purdue Board of Trustees Executive Committee approved the 3.5% tuition and fee increase this afternoon after hearing from just one student during a public hearing. Time was set aside for anyone wishing to address the board of trustees about the increase.

5-30-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:00)

Attica High School students will have a new school supply to carry to class in the fall. The Attica Consolidated School Corporation will give students in grades 9 through 12 a Dell laptop computer when school starts in the fall. The computers and wireless building connections will cost the district about \$135,000.

6-27-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Harrison High School band students are packing up their instruments and heading to Hawaii. NewsChannel 18's Tiffanie Dismore explains why the Raider band will be spending Independence Day in the Aloha state.

6-28-11 (During Noon broadcast – Duration :40)

Two principals are leaving the Delphi School Corporation. Delphi Elementary Principal Joe Brown has accepted a job as a principal in Noblesville. Delphi Community High School Principal Barry Stone will be leaving at the end of the 2012 school year to pursue his doctoral degree.

6-28-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

The search for a new Lafayette School Corporation leader is underway. However, conducting the search process for a new superintendent is a task board members are a little rusty at. NewsChannel 18's Niccole Caan reports.

6-28-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :40)

Purdue has an extra 11 million dollars to help educate teachers, engineers, and veterinarians. The money is coming from several gifts from benefactors of the University. Purdue President France Cordova says these benefactors are a key resource for the school.

6-29-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :40)

TSC busses that were victims of arson earlier this month are now headed to the scrap yard. A large wrecker hauled them away last night from behind Wea Ridge Elementary School, and will be taken to an auto auction to be sold for scrap. A 14-year-old boy was charged for setting those buses on fire.

TRANSPORTATION and INFRASTRUCTURE

Road construction projects were a big part of WLFI's news in the second quarter. All other roadwork paled in comparison to the work on US 52. The job is not expected to be wrapped up until the summer of 2012. NewsChannel 18 highlighted a business smack dab in the middle of the roadwork and how they were dealing with the detours.

Also in the second quarter, two radio tower workers die after falling from the tower during installation.

4-6-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

The governor made a stop in West Lafayette for the groundbreaking of the U-S 231 Bypass project. The bypass project is part of Daniels' Major Moves' Transportation plan. According to INDOT Spokesperson Debbie Calder, the bypass is set to be complete by September 2013.

4-13-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast - Duration 1:00)

The company responsible for construction on a Tippecanoe County radio tower has no comment after two workers fall to their death today. NewsChannel 18's Ava Wilhite has the story.

4-13-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

Most local commuters have noticed traffic delays due to construction along U-S 52. Indiana Department of Transportation Spokesperson Debbie Calder says traffic was shifted into one lane yesterday in each direction, so that caused a few more problems. Calder says the one-lane restrictions are in place so construction crews can build up the median.

4-19-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

As a driver, you know the construction on U-S 52 can be irritating. As a business owner along that same stretch of road, it can be equally, if not more frustrating especially when your store depends on that traffic. A manager at Quick Lube near State Road 25 and U-S 52 says business has already decreased. But, as Aaron Leedy reports, the store vows to remain open.

4-26-11 (Duration 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :40)

2011 has already been a busy construction season...now you can add another project to that list. A railroad crossing will be rebuilt on County Road 950 East, just south of State Road 38

5-16-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)=

The Lilly Nature Center at the Celery Bog Nature Area will also be closed to the public over the summer because of construction on Lindberg Road. The Center suspended its normal weekly public hours until August. The Lindberg Bridge construction will reduce access to the Center.

5-18-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

The promise of a half finished project in Chauncey Hill could be soon fulfilled after approval from Tippecanoe county. Hi-rise apartments are in the building's future. Nicole Caan explains.

5-19-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:00)

Navigating construction on the Purdue University campus might be tricky for drivers, but it could also be dangerous for pedestrians trying to cross the road. Responsible pedestrians cross at a crosswalk, but beware, crosswalks like this one serve no purpose during construction. Instead university police are asking pedestrians to cross all the way down at the light at Northwestern and Stadium.

5-23-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:15)

A stretch of Creasy Lane in Lafayette is adding time to the daily commute for many drivers. If you've driven near Creasy Lane and State Road 38 recently, no doubt you've noticed the construction going on there, and the traffic that comes with it.

6-16-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

A West Lafayette city councilor will pack his bags and head to Washington D-C tomorrow morning to meet with the president and other White House officials. District One Democratic Councilor Eddie VanBogaert was in Washington D-C a couple weeks ago for a networking event for elected officials under 35. He and a handful of others from across the U-S, were invited to come back for a second event.

6-17-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

A state highway worker for INDOT was killed in Jasper County Thursday morning. ISP says his co-worker backed into him with a dump truck.

6-17-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:00)

Purdue University is one of 20 teams that will compete in a national "green" competition. The team is building a house that will soon make its way to Washington D-C. NewsChannel 18's Aaron Leedy has the story.

6-20-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration :45)

For job seekers, sending resumes can become tiresome. Today, employers and people looking for a job met in the middle. More than 600 prospective employees, and 42 companies came together in the Lilly room at Ivy Tech, for a job fair sponsored by Greater Lafayette Commerce and Tecumseh Area Partnership. The room was filled to near capacity with job seekers ranging from skilled professionals to college grads.

6-21-11 (During Noon broadcast – Duration :45)

Construction crews began installing the first sections of wind turbines at CityBus today. The sections arrived on Monday to the site. CityBus received more than two million dollars in federal stimulus money to install the turbines.

6-22-11 (During 5 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Plans are in the works for the tallest apartment building Purdue University has ever seen. If plans go through for this proposed apartment complex it would be the tallest of its kind in the campus community, and that's what concerns many area residents.

6-22-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

Motorists and business owners that use 6th street in Monticello want to know why construction on the street is still not finished years after the project began. NewsChannel 18's Ava Wilhite explains what the hold up is.

6-24-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

Thanks to a one million dollar donation the Long Center will be expanding. The donation comes from the Jan Andre Bootsma estate and will purchase two buildings that stand next to the center.

6-24-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:30)

Purdue Basketball fans have seen the last of Keady Court. Purdue Athletics will be replacing the basketball court after it was ruined by a Spring Storm. NewsChannel 18's Alex Deiro has the story.

6-25-11 (During 6 o'clock broadcast – Duration 1:00)

Some 4-H'ers of all ages were showing off their rocketry skills today. Today was judging for 4-H aerospace at Wainwright Middle School. The rockets were judged on how high they flew, as well as whether they landed within a target range.

6-29-11 (During 11 o'clock broadcast – Duration :50)

Governor Mitch Daniels marked the five year anniversary of Major Moves today. The project generated nearly \$3.8 billion through the lease of the Indiana Toll Road to fund the largest infrastructure building program in state history.